

[Sri R. Venkataraman]

[14th April 1960]

with the representatives of the Board and Workers' Union on 6th October 1959 and submitted his report to Government. The report of the Commissioner of Labour is under the consideration of the Government and final orders will be issued shortly. As this is the first dispute on a major scale between the Madras State Electricity Board and its employees working on projects, the Government have to examine these demands in detail and hence there has been some delay which is unavoidable.

On 7th March 1960, the Tamilnad Electricity Board Accounts Subordinates Union gave notice that the workers would go on strike from 21st March 1960 in order to get the demands of the Electricity workers of the Kundah Project conceded. Similarly, the Tamilnad Electricity Board Last Grade Servants Union, Kundah, Emerald and Kundah Hydel Workcharged and Services Union, Kundah, Emerald, Pegambahalla and Upper Bhavani Units also served notices on the Madras State Electricity Board proposing to go on strike from 21st March 1960 and 22nd March 1960, respectively. The threatened strike did not take place on that date.

The President and the General Secretary of the National Project Workers' Union, Kundah, who went on hunger strike from 7th March 1960 as a protest against the delay in passing orders on the demands raised by the union, called it off from 9th March 1960 and the workers who struck work in sympathy with the hunger strikers also resumed work from 10th March 1960. The National Project Workers' Union has again served a strike notice on the Madras State Electricity Board stating that the workers will be going on strike from 13th April 1960 if their demands are not conceded. The matter is under consideration. I may add that the question has been referred to the Commissioner of Labour for taking up statutory conciliation under the Act.

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT.

THE MADRAS LAND REFORMS (FIXATION OF CEILING ON LAND) BILL, 1960.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to announce to the House that the Governor has given his recommendation for the consideration in the Madras Legislative Assembly of the Madras Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Bill, 1960.

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILL.

THE MADRAS LAND REFORMS (FIXATION OF CEILING ON LAND) BILL, 1960 (L.A. BILL NO. 8 OF 1960)

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move—

“That the concurrence of the Legislative Council be obtained for setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses consisting of 45 members (30 members of the Legislative Assembly and 15 members of the Legislative Council) to consider the Madras Land